

## Message Text

SECRET

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73

ACTION SY-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00

SS-20 A-01 INR-10 /048 W

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R 061535Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8839

S E C R E T LISBON 4470

ATTENTION CHIEF A/SY/L/PIB

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC (SECRETARY'S VISIT, NATO/ME)

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PORTUGAL--

SECURITY ESTIMATE

REF: STATE 237226

1. MISSION HAS NO INFORMATION WHICH WOULD INDICATE THAT DEMONSTRATIONS, PROTESTS, RIOTS OR OTHER CIVIL DISORDERS MIGHT OCCUR DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT LISBON DECEMBER 20-21. WHILE THERE IS ALWAYS POSSIBILITY OF MINOR STUDENT DISTURBANCES, UNIVERSITY WILL THEN BE IN RECESS. ANY DISORDERS UNLIKELY BE DIRECTED AGAINST US OR SECRETARY, AND WOULD IN OUR ESTIMATE BE QUICKLY CONTAINED BY GOP SECURITY FORCES.

2. THERE IS SOME POSSIBILITY THAT ANTI-GOVERNMENT SABOTAGE GROUP MIGHT SEEK TO EMBARRASS GOP BY ACTION DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT. HOWEVER, SABOTAGE GROUPS HAVE BEEN VIRTUALLY CLOSED DOWN BY GOP DURING PAST YEAR, AND ARE MORIBUND. THEIR ACTIVITIES IN PAST HAVE FOCUSED ON EMBARRASSING REGIME, AND THEY HAVE BEEN LARGELY SUCCESSFUL IN EFFORTS TO AVOID INJURIES OR BLOODSHED.

3. SINCE OUTSET OF PORTUGAL'S INVOLVEMENT IN MIDEAST

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RESUPPLY OPERATIONS THROUGH AZORES BASE, GOP HAS FEARED

THAT PORTUGAL MIGHT BECOME TARGET FOR ARAB TERRORISTS. WHILE WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC INTELLIGENCE SUGGESTING THAT ARAB TERRORISM WILL BE A SUBSTANTIAL THREAT DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT, WE ARE ACUTELY CONSCIOUS THAT ATTACKS AGAINST US IN PORTUGAL MIGHT BE THOUGHT BY ARAB TERRORISTS TO GENERATE FAVORABLE REPERCUSSIONS IN BOTH ARAB AND AFRICAN WORLDS. WE HAVE ALERTED GOP TO THIS POSSIBILITY AND RATE THEIR ABILITY TO DEAL WITH ANY SUCH THREAT AS BETTER THAN AVERAGE.

4. PUBLIC ATTITUDES: SECRETARY'S VISIT WILL DOMINATE PUBLIC ATTENTION. TO ORDINARY PORTUGUESE US SECRETARY OF STATE COMES AS FRIEND AND ALLY. HOWEVER, PUBLIC HAS BEEN INCONVENIENCED RECENTLY BY GASOLINE SHORTAGE, AND MANY WHO STAND IN LONG LINES AT FILLING STATIONS BLAME US FOR PORTUGAL'S INVOLVEMENT IN DISTANT BIG POWER PROBLEMS.  
POST

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 06 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <23-Oct-2001 by shawdg>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PORTUGAL-- SECURITY ESTIMATE  
**TAGS:** ASEC, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005